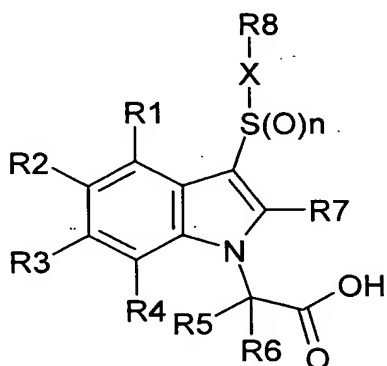


# CLAIMS

1. A compound of general formula (I)



I

wherein

- 5  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are independently hydrogen, halo,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,  $-O(C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl),  $-CON(R^9)_2$ ,  $-SOR^9$ ,  $-SO_2R^9$ ,  $-SO_2N(R^9)_2$ ,  $-N(R^9)_2$ ,  $-NR^9COR^9$ ,  $-CO_2R^9$ ,  $-COR^9$ ,  $-SR^9$ ,  $-OH$ ,  $-NO_2$  or  $-CN$ ;

each  $R^9$  is independently hydrogen or  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl;

$R^5$  and  $R^6$  are each independently hydrogen, or  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl or together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a  $C_3$ - $C_7$  cycloalkyl group;

$R^7$  is hydrogen or  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl

- 15 n is 1 or 2;

X is a bond or, when n is 2, X may also be a  $NR^9$  group;

wherein  $R^9$  is as defined above;

when X is a bond  $R^8$  is  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkenyl,  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkynyl, biphenyl or a 9-14 membered bicyclic or tricyclic heteroaryl group;

- 20 when X is a  $NR^9$  group  $R^8$  may additionally be phenyl, naphthyl or a 5-7 membered heteroaromatic ring; and

- the  $R^8$  group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from  
halo,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,  $-O(C_1$ - $C_6)$ alkyl, aryl,  $-O$ -aryl, heteroaryl,  $-O$ -heteroaryl,  
25  $-CON(R^9)_2$ ,  $-SOR^9$ ,  $-SO_2R^9$ ,  $SO_2N(R^9)_2$ ,  $-N(R^9)_2$ ,  $-NR^9COR^9$ ,  $-CO_2R^9$ ,  $-COR^9$ ,  $-SR^9$ ,

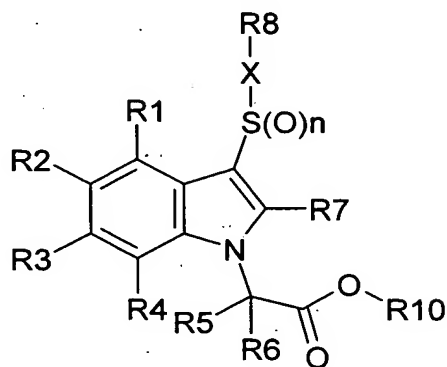
-OH, -NO<sub>2</sub> or -CN;

wherein R<sup>9</sup> is as defined above;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, complex or prodrug thereof.

5

2. A compound of general formula (II):



II

10 wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, n, X, R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> are as defined for general formula (I);  
R<sup>10</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, aryl, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>OC(=O)C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>N(R<sup>11</sup>)<sub>2</sub>,  
CH((CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>O(C=O)R<sup>12</sup>)<sub>2</sub>;

m is 1 or 2;

R<sup>11</sup> is hydrogen or methyl;

15 R<sup>12</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub> alkyl.

3. A compound as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein, independently or in any combination:

R<sup>1</sup> is halo or hydrogen;

20 R<sup>2</sup> is halo or hydrogen;

R<sup>3</sup> is halo or hydrogen;

R<sup>4</sup> is halo or hydrogen.

4. A compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are  
25 hydrogen and R<sup>2</sup> is halo.

5. A compound as claimed in claim 4 wherein  $R^2$  is fluoro.
6. A compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  are  
5 each independently hydrogen or  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl.
7. A compound as claimed in claim 6 wherein at least one of  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  are hydrogen.
- 10 8. A compound as claimed in claim 7 wherein both  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  are hydrogen.
9. A compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein  $R^7$  is H or  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl.
- 15 10. A compound as claimed in claim 9 wherein  $R^7$  is methyl.
11. A compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10 wherein n is 2.
12. A compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 11 wherein X is a bond and  
20  $R^8$  is  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, biphenyl or a bicyclic heteroaryl group, any of which may be substituted with halogen, phenyl,  $-CO_2R^9$ ,  $CON(R^9)_2$  or  $-SO_2R^9$ , where  $R^9$  is as defined above.
13. A compound as claimed in claim 12 wherein  $R^8$  is  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl, biphenyl, a  
25 bicyclic heteroaryl group or a 5-7 membered heterocyclic ring, any of which may be substituted with phenyl,  $-CO_2R^9$ ,  $CON(R^9)_2$  or  $-SO_2R^9$ , where  $R^9$  is H or  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl.
14. A compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 11 wherein X is  $NR^9$ ,  $R^9$  is H or methyl and  $R^8$  is:  
30 phenyl optionally substituted with one or more halo,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl or  $-O(C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl) groups;

C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, optionally substituted with aryl; or  
heteroaryl.

15. A compound as claimed in claim 14, wherein R<sup>8</sup> is phenyl, benzyl or pyridyl,  
5 any of which may optionally be substituted with one or more halo, methyl or methoxy groups.
16. [3-(Butane-1-sulfonyl)-5-fluoro-2-methyl-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid  
3-(Biphenyl-4-sulfonyl)-5-fluoro-2-methyl-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid  
10 [3-Carboxymethanesulfonyl-5-fluoro-2-methyl-indol-1-yl)-acetic acid  
(3-Carbamoylmethanesulfonyl-5-fluoro-2-methyl-indol-1-yl)-acetic acid  
[5-Fluoro-3-(2-methanesulfonyl-ethanesulfonyl)-2-methyl-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid  
[3-(Benzothiazole-2-sulfonyl)-5-fluoro-2-methyl-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid  
[3-(Benzothiazole-2-sulfinyl)-5-fluoro-2-methyl-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid  
15 [5-Fluoro-2-methyl-3-(quinoline-2-sulfonyl)-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid  
[5-Fluoro-2-methyl-3-(quinolin-8-ylsulfonyl)-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid  
(5-Fluoro-2-methyl-3-phenylmethanesulfonyl-1H-indol-1-yl)-acetic acid  
[3-(4-Chloro-phenylsulfamoyl)-5-fluoro-2-methyl-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid  
[3-(3-Chloro-phenylsulfamoyl)-5-fluoro-2-methyl-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid  
20 [3-(4-Fluoro-phenylsulfamoyl)-5-fluoro-2-methyl-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid  
[3-(2-Chloro-phenylsulfamoyl)-5-fluoro-2-methyl-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid  
(3-Benzylsulfamoyl-5-fluoro-2-methyl-indol-1-yl)-acetic acid  
[5-Fluoro-3-(2-methoxy-phenylsulfamoyl)-2-methyl-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid  
[5-Fluoro-3-(4-methoxy-phenylsulfamoyl)-2-methyl-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid  
25 (5-Fluoro-2-methyl-3-phenylsulfamoyl-indol-1-yl)-acetic acid  
[3-(3,4-Dichloro-benzylsulfamoyl)-5-fluoro-2-methyl-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid  
[5-Fluoro-3-(3-methoxy-phenylsulfamoyl)-2-methyl-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid  
(5-Fluoro-2-methyl-3-*m*-tolylsulfamoyl-indol-1-yl)-acetic acid  
(5-Fluoro-2-methyl-3-*p*-tolylsulfamoyl-indol-1-yl)-acetic acid  
30 [3-(4-Chloro-benzylsulfamoyl)-5-fluoro-2-methyl-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid  
[3-(Benzyl-methyl-sulfamoyl)-5-fluoro-2-methyl-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid

[5-Fluoro-2-methyl-3-(pyridin-3-ylsulfamoyl)-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid;

or the C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, aryl, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>OC(=O)C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>N(R<sup>11</sup>)<sub>2</sub>,  
CH((CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>O(C=O)R<sup>12</sup>)<sub>2</sub> esters of any of the above; wherein

m is 1 or 2;

5 R<sup>11</sup> is hydrogen or methyl;

R<sup>12</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub> alkyl.

17. A process for the preparation of a compound of general formula (I) as  
claimed in any one of claims 1 to 13 or 16 wherein n is 1 or 2 and X is a bond, the  
10 process comprising treating a compound of general formula (Ia), which is a  
compound of general formula (I) wherein n is 0 and X is a bond, by oxidation with a  
suitable oxidising agent.

18. A process for the preparation of a compound of general formula (I) as  
15 claimed in any one of claims 1 to 16, the process comprising reacting a compound of  
general formula (II) as defined in claim 2 and wherein R<sup>10</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl with a base.

19. A compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 16 for use in medicine.

20. 20. A compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 16 for use in the treatment  
of allergic asthma, perennial allergic rhinitis, seasonal allergic rhinitis, atopic  
dermatitis, contact hypersensitivity (including contact dermatitis), conjunctivitis,  
especially allergic conjunctivitis, eosinophilic bronchitis, food allergies, eosinophilic  
gastroenteritis, inflammatory bowel disease, ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease,  
25 mastocytosis, another PGD<sub>2</sub>-mediated disease, for example autoimmune diseases  
such as hyper IgE syndrome and systemic lupus erythematus, psoriasis, acne,  
multiple sclerosis, allograft rejection, reperfusion injury and chronic obstructive  
pulmonary disease; or rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis or osteoarthritis.

30 21. The use of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 16 in the  
preparation of an agent for the treatment or prevention allergic asthma, perennial

allergic rhinitis, seasonal allergic rhinitis, atopic dermatitis, contact hypersensitivity (including contact dermatitis), conjunctivitis, especially allergic conjunctivitis, eosinophilic bronchitis, food allergies, eosinophilic gastroenteritis, inflammatory bowel disease, ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease, mastocytosis, another PGD<sub>2</sub>-mediated disease, for example autoimmune diseases such as hyper IgE syndrome and systemic lupus erythematus, psoriasis, acne, multiple sclerosis, allograft rejection, reperfusion injury and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; or rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis or osteoarthritis.

22. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 16 together with a pharmaceutical excipient or carrier.

23. A composition as claimed in claim 22 formulated oral, rectal, nasal, bronchial (inhaled), topical (including eye drops, buccal and sublingual), vaginal or parenteral (including subcutaneous, intramuscular, intravenous and intradermal) administration.

24. A composition as claimed in claim 23 formulated for oral, nasal, bronchial or topical administration.

25. A composition as claimed in any one of claims 22 to 24 containing one or more additional active agents useful in the treatment of diseases and conditions mediated by PGD<sub>2</sub> at the CRTH2 receptor.

26. A composition as claimed in claim 25, wherein the additional active agents are selected from:

β<sub>2</sub> agonists such as salmeterol;

corticosteroids such as fluticasone;

antihistamines such as loratidine;

leukotriene antagonists such as montelukast;

anti-IgE antibody therapies such as omalizumab;

anti-infectives such as fusidic acid (particularly for the treatment of atopic

dermatitis);

anti-fungals such as clotrimazole (particularly for the treatment of atopic dermatitis);

immunosuppressants such as tacrolimus and particularly pimecrolimus in the case of inflammatory skin disease;

5 other antagonists of  $\text{PGD}_2$  acting at other receptors such as DP antagonists;

inhibitors of phosphodiesterase type 4 such as cilonilast;

drugs that modulate cytokine production such as inhibitors of  $\text{TNF}\alpha$  converting enzyme (TACE);

drugs that modulate the activity of Th2 cytokines IL-4 and IL-5 such as blocking

10 monoclonal antibodies and soluble receptors;

PPAR- $\gamma$  agonists such as rosiglitazone;

5-lipoxygenase inhibitors such as zileuton.

27. A process for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition as claimed in  
15 any one of claims 22 to 26 comprising bringing a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 16 in conjunction or association with a pharmaceutically or veterinarily acceptable carrier or vehicle.

28. A product comprising a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 16  
20 and one or more of the agents listed in claim 26 as a combined preparation for simultaneous, separate or sequential use in the treatment of a disease or condition mediated by the action of  $\text{PGD}_2$  at the CRTH2 receptor.

29. The use as claimed in claim 21, wherein the agent also comprises an  
25 additional active agent useful for the treatment of diseases and conditions mediated by  $\text{PGD}_2$  at the CRTH2 and/or DP receptor.

30. The use as claimed in claim 29, wherein the additional active agent is one of the agents listed in claim 26.